

### **Remarks**

Claims 3, 4, and 8 are presented for the Examiner's review and consideration. Applicants believe the claim amendments and the accompanying remarks, herein, serve to clarify the present invention and are independent of patentability. No new matter has been added.

#### **35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejections**

Claims 1, 2, and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). In order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have canceled these claims without prejudice.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 3, 4, and 8 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form, but were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. In response, Applicants have rewritten these claims as required by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 3, 4, and 8 are allowable.

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Application No.: 10/567,602  
Examiner: T. Pham

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing remarks, this application is now in condition for allowance and early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. If any questions remain regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

A fee for a three month extension of time is believed to be due and is submitted herewith via credit card. However, please charge any other fee due or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account of the undersigned, Deposit Account No. 500601 (Atty Dckt 7380-X07-007).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Q. B.', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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